

Central Oregon Agriculture

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 2

MARCH / APRIL 2015

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Crook County Stockgrowers Association Quarterly Meeting and Annual Banquet - Saturday, March 14, Carey Foster Hall, Prineville, OR

For more information contact Tyler McCormack (541) 576-2826 or Allen Teskey (541) 477-3848 or ateskey@bluemtnranch.com.

Living on a Few Acres Conference (LOAFA) - Saturday, March 14, Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR

Join us this year and learn more about the following topics: *native plant management, horses, poultry and livestock, vegetables, hay & pasture, irrigation management, swine, wine-making, food preservation, tractor safety & skills, wool grading, parasitology, cover crops/composting, Llama/Alpaca, new farmer/land owner information*, and much more! For more information contact Toni Stephan (541) 548-6088 or toni.stephan@oregonstate.edu or [LOAFA](#) (Link).

Oregon Forage and Grasslands Council Spring Conference - Saturday, March 14th, Corvallis, OR

Fertilizing pastures, soil mineralization and organic matter content effect on forage quality: an economic case study in calcium deficient soils, targeted grazing, utilization of sprouted grains as a feed alternative, parasite control, weed control, supplementation of beef cattle on pasture, and much more! For more [Information](#) (pdf), or contact Troy Downing at (503) 842-3433.

Agriculture Business Workshop Series/Labor & Human Resources - Saturday, March 21, (9:00 am to 11:30 am), COCC Technology Center, 2324 SE College Loop, Redmond, OR

Labor is the largest expense. Learn where to make changes to increase efficiencies and prioritize needs; how to determine your labor needs and develop labor management systems. Laws that apply to interns and volunteers will also be discussed. For more information go to: [Information](#) (Link) or Crook County Extension Service at (541) 447-6228 (see page 3 for April Agriculture Business Workshops). Hosted by: COCC SBDC, COIC, OSU Extension Service and Timber Creek Farm.

Irrigated Pasture and Grazing Management Class - Thursday, March 26 (6:00 pm to 9:00 pm), Redmond Public Library, Redmond, OR

The power point presentation will cover all aspects of irrigated pasture production and grazing animals properly on an irrigated pasture to optimize production. The class is for all levels of producer knowledge. Additional Irrigated Pasture and Grazing Management Classes will be held late spring, summer, and fall, on-farms around central Oregon. The late spring class will be a late afternoon/early evening walk through an irrigated pasture talking about what is happening with the plants (top growth and root growth), watch animals graze, check grazing height, hear about management goals of the producer, and evaluate the irrigation management, etc. Class fee is \$10.00. *RSVP* by March 25 to the Deschutes County SWCD at (541) 923-2204 or (541) 815-8733. Hosted by: OSU Extension Service and the Deschutes County Soil and Water Conservation. District.

Central Oregon Agriculture is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the Central Oregon Extension offices and the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center (COARC). The intent of this newsletter is to extend agricultural research-based information, to solve problems, develop leadership and manage resources wisely. Please direct comments and changes to the mailing list of your local County office.

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- ◆ Pamela Wiederholt, Ag Newsletter Coordinator/ Webmaster, (541) 447-6228

Central Oregon County Extension Offices (all area codes are 541)

Crook County Extension Service - Phone 447-6228, 498 SE Lynn Blvd., Prineville, OR 97754

Deschutes County Extension Service - Phone 548-6088, 3893 SW Airport Way, Redmond, OR 97756

Jefferson County Extension Service - Phone 475-7107, 850 Dogwood Lane., Madras, OR 97741

Warm Springs Indian Reservation - Phone 553-3238, 1110 Wasco St., PO Box 430, Warm Springs, OR 97761

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center

- ◆ Carol Tollefson, Operations Director, 475-7107

Madras Site - Phone 475-7107, 850 Dogwood Lane, 97741

Powell Butte Site - 8215 SW Hwy. 126, 97753

Extension Service & Experiment Station Web Sites

Crook County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/crook>

Deschutes County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes>

Jefferson County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/jefferson>

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center:
<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/coarc/index.php>

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- ◆ Tracy Wilson, Soil Health and Plant Nutrition, 475-7107
- ◆ Toni Stephan, Horticulture and Small Farms Instructor, 548-6088
- ◆ Nicole Strong, Forestry, 548-6088

The above individuals are devoted to extending agricultural information to producers. Many of the individuals, in addition to agriculture, have assignments in research, 4H/youth, administration and community resource education. Often it is appropriate to mention brand names of some commercial products; however, they are used only for the purpose of information. Extension does not guarantee or warrant the standard of the product, or does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others.

The Central Oregon Wine and Grape Growers Association (COWGA)

The Central Oregon Wine and Grape Growers Association is planning multiple events this year during the growing season. Whether you are interested in growing wine or table grapes, whether you have 5 grape plants, or 15,000 grape plants, everyone is welcome. For more information go to: www.centraloregonwine.com (Link), or contact Kerry Damon, President at (541) 771-7817, to talk about membership, locations of their meetings, and upcoming events.

Did you miss the "2014 Great Basin Native Plant Project Annual Meeting"?

If you were not able to attend this meeting you can catch the presentations online at: www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/research/shrub/greatbasin.shtml (Link).

Crooked River Weed Management Area (CRWMA) Cost-Share Program

The CRWMA provides cost-share assistance to private landowners to help control noxious weeds on their properties within the Crooked River Watershed area. CRWMA will fund the cost of the herbicide or biocontrol agent while the landowner is responsible for the costs associated with the herbicide application. Landowners need to complete an application and return it back to CRWMA by **May 5, 2015**. CRWMA board will then review applications for funding. For more information contact Debbie Wood at (541) 447-9971 or debbie.wood@oregonstate.edu.

Cover Crops

Interested in learning more about cover crops? *Managing Cover Crops Profitably* (2007 edition) explores how and why cover crops work, and provides all the information needed to build cover crops into any farming operation. Along with detailed management information on the most commonly used species—including grasses, grains, brassicas and mustards, and legumes—*Managing Cover Crops Profitably* offers chapters on the role of cover crops in broader topics such as crop rotations, pests and conservation tillage. It also has appendices on seed suppliers and regional experts. 244 pages and published in 2007, the online version is free. Following is a link <http://www.sare.org/> once on the home page, click on the learning center and it will take you to the following link: <http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books/Managing-Cover-Crops-Profitably-3rd-Edition/Text-Version>.

Other Resources

Cornell Website: <http://covercrops.cals.cornell.edu/>

Midwest Cover Crops Council: <http://www.mccc.msu.edu/>

USDA List of Cover Crops: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/coverCrops>

Cover Crop Topic Room/Western SARE:

<http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Topic-Rooms/Cover-Crop-Topic-Room>.

High Desert Wool Growers Fiber Market Day - Saturday, March 28th, Carey Foster Hall and 4-H Clover Club Building, Crook County Fairgrounds, Prineville, OR

The event originally started as a market for local farmers to sell their livestock and fiber products. Now the Fiber Market Day attracts vendors from all over Oregon and Washington. For more [Information](#) (Link), or contact Michele Long at (541) 447-9276.

Youth Tractor Safety & Certification Course, Wednesday, March 25, to Friday, March 27, North Willamette Research & Extension Center, Aurora, OR

The Youth Tractor Certification Course is a 22-hour program designed to teach safety as it relates to driving and managing farm implements. It offers both classroom and hands-on tractor driving experiences for youth ages 14-17. For more [Information](#) (pdf), or Jan Williams (503) 650-3127.

Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop, Thursday, April 9, 2015, Bend and Terrebonne, OR

The workshop will be held twice, once in the morning in Bend from 10-12 and once in the afternoon in Terrebonne from 2:30-4:30. Each workshop will have a maximum attendance of 20 people. Cost of \$20 must be received in the Deschutes County Extension office within 5 working days of signing up (if funds are not received within 5 working days of signing up, your name will be taken off the workshop list so the space can be filled by another participant). To sign up and reserve your spot call (541) 548-6088, let the office staff know which workshop you want to attend, Name, email and phone number required...so we can get back to you with directions to the workshops. Directions to the workshops will be sent to attendees by April 7, 2015. For more information contact Toni Stephan at toni.stephan@oregonstate.edu or (541) 548-6088.

Low-Stress Cattle Handling and Stockmanship Seminar - Thursday & Friday, April 16 & 17, Moses Lake, WA

Two nationally recognized cattle handling experts, Dr. Tom Noffsinger and Mr. Curt Pate, will in Moses Lake on April 16 and 17 to offer ways to work cattle in an efficient, effective, low-stress manner to enhance cattle movement, performance, and handler safety. Human safety, cattle performance, family dynamics, consumer perspectives are all impacted by the way we work cattle

on our ranches. Low-stress cattle handling not only improves producer and family safety, morale, and retention, but has also has been proven to improve animal performance, safety, health, meat quality and the perception of the cattle industry. Cattle care and handling is a top concern of consumers. Registration brochures are available at: <http://www.animalag.wsu.edu/Upcoming%20Events/2015/CattleHandlingBrochure-CowCalf-April16-172015> (pdf), or contact Sarah M. Smith, WSU Extension Regional Specialist at (509) 754-2011, Ext. 4313.

Agriculture Business Workshop Series/On Farm Field Day, Saturday, April 11, (9:00 am to 3:00 pm), and Agri-Tourism & Land-Use, Saturday, April 25, (9:00 am-11:30 am), COCC Technology Center, 2324 SE College Loop, Redmond, OR

For more information go to: [Information](#) (Link) or Crook County Extension Service at (541) 447-6228.

2015 Century and Sesquicentennial Farms - Applications Due May 1, 2015

Share your family's story. Applications are now being accepted for the 2015 award year for the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program. Families throughout Oregon who have continuously farmed portions of their family acreage for the past 100 or 150 years are invited to apply. For more information go to: www.oregonfb.org/centuryfarm (Link), or Andrea Kuenzi at (503) 400-7884.

1st Annual High Desert Horse Show - Saturday, May 9, (10:00 am-6:00 pm), Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond

The High Desert Horse Expo is Oregon's newest equine expo and the only expo east of the Cascades in Oregon or Washington. Organized by the Oregon Horse Country Foundation, proceeds from this event will go to fund grants, scholarships, professional development, and education for Oregon's horse community. This expo is sure to have something for everyone. If you love horses or are a horse owner, this is the event of the year that you don't want to miss! For more information go to: [Information](#) (Link) or Brandi Ebner at (503) 682-0411, Ext. 103.

Youth Tractor Safety & Certification Course, Monday through Wednesday, June 22-24, 2015, Madras, OR

For more information contact Jon Gandy at (541) 475-3808.

T-Sum Growing Degrees Update

The T-Sum (temperature summing) is calculated by summing the daily average temperature (adding the daily maximum and minimum temperature in degrees F and dividing by 2), and then subtract 32 degrees (base temperature for T-Sum). If the average is less than 0, discard the number; if the number is positive, it is accumulated, from January 1st as a growing degree-day (gdd). One web site you can track the thermal time is at: <http://uspest.org/OR/>, which is the direct web site to all weather stations on this system. Use "simple average" and 32 degrees base temperature to plug into the calculator. This T-Sum 360 F or T-Sum 720 F system for calculating gdd's is only to be used for timing nitrogen fertilizer applications on grass pasture and hay fields. If you want earlier pasture production, then when 360 F gdd's is accumulated, that is the best time to apply 50-60 lb/ac N. If you are applying high rates (100-150 lb/ac) of nitrogen to grass hay fields, than apply around 720 gdd's. This strategy is based on C.O. field research (2 site years at Powell Butte and 2 site years at Madras). On the OSU Extension Service Crook County web site ,the table goes back to 2008 for comparison, [Table](#) pdf. *But, we are 4-8 weeks ahead of irrigation season...we no longer have ammonium nitrate fertilizer to apply locally. Check with your Fertilizer supplier about how long the "new coated urea" will protect against volatilization before irrigation happens.*

Table 1. T-Sum dates for the present year(s) for 180, 360, 540, 720, and 900 accumulated T-Sum growing-degree days (GDD's) from January 1st for selected Central Oregon locations. (Fertilize at 360 gdd's for pasture, if you want earlier forage, and around 720 gdd's for grass hay.) (GDD's using 32 degrees F base temperature **as of March 1, 2015.**)

Location/Elevation	Year	180 GDD's	Fertilize Pasture 360 GDD's	540 GDD's	Fertilize Grass Hay 720 GDD's	900 GDD's
Madras (2440')	2014	Feb 17	Mar. 9	Apr 26	Apr 8	Apr 19
	2015	Jan 26	Feb 11	493		
Prineville 4 NW (2840')	2014	Feb. 14	Mar 5	Mar 28	Apr. 11	Apr 24
	2015	Jan 24	Feb 8	Feb 25	568	
Redmond (3077')	2014	Feb. 11	Mar. 5	Apr 3	Apr 15	Apr 29
	2015	Jan 27	Feb 13	444		
Powell Butte (3180')	2014	Feb 11	Mar 5	Mar 23	Apr 8	Apr 20
	2015	Jan 25	Feb 8	234		
Bend (Agrimet) (3650')	2014	Feb 11	Mar. 5	Mar 19	Apr 7	Apr 17
	2015	Jan 25	Feb 10	503		
Paulina (3688')	2014	Feb 27	Mar 15	Apr 3	Apr 15	Apr 30
	2015	Feb 2	Feb 15	485		
Christmas Valley (4360')	2014	Feb 24	Mar 16	Apr 9	Apr 24	May 9
	2015	Feb 6	310			
Fort Rock (Raws) (4430')	2014	Feb 18	Mar 13	Apr 4	Apr 13	Apr 30
	2015	Feb 4	355			
Seneca (4665')	2014	Mar 9	Apr 8	Apr 22	May 5	May 16
	2015	Feb 18	205			

Calendar

March

- 10 [Family Agricultural Enterprise Succession: A Management Transition Seminar](#) (Link), Redmond, OR.
- 11 [Family Agricultural Enterprise Succession: A Management Transition Seminar](#) (Link), Pendleton, OR.
- 14 Northwest Bison Association Spring Meeting, Enumclaw, WA., www.nwbisonassociation.com (Link).
- 14 [Crook County Stockgrowers Association Annual Business Meeting, Banquet and Auction](#) (Link), Carey Foster Hall, Prineville, OR., Tyler McCormack (541) 576-2826 or Allen Teskey (541) 477-3848 (see article Front Page).
- 14 [Oregon Forage and Grasslands Council Spring Conference](#) (Link), Corvallis, OR., Troy Downing (503) 842-3433 (see article Front Page).
- 14 [Living On A Few Acres Conference \(LOAFA\)](#) (Link), Redmond, OR., Toni Stephan, toni.stephan@oregonstate.edu or (541) 548-6088 (see article Front Page).
- 16 [SAIF Agricultural Safety Seminar](#) (Link), Klamath Falls, OR., 1-800-285-8525.
- 16-17 OSU Blueberry School, OSU Campus, Corvallis, OR., www.osublueberryschool.org (Link).
- 17-18 [The Precision Farming Expo](#) (Link), Salem, OR., Jeff Lorton, Show Producer at (503) 550-4272.
- 21 Ag Business Workshop, Labor and Human Resources, Redmond, OR., [Information](#) (Link) or (541) 447-6228 (see article Front Page).
- 25-27 Youth [Tractor Safety Education](#) (Link), Training, and Certification Program, Aurora, OR., David White, (541) 548-6088 (see article Page 3).
- 26 Irrigated Pasture and Grazing Management Class, call (541) 923-2204 (see article Front Page).
- 28 High Desert Wool Growers Fiber Market Day, Prineville, OR., Michele Long (541) 447-9276 (see article Page 3).

April

- 7-10 2015 National Extension Energy Summit, Seattle, WA., <http://events.cahnrs.wsu.edu/2015energysummit> (Link) or Mary (206) 221-3936.
- 9 [Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop](#) (Link), Bend & Terrebonne, OR., Toni Stephan (541) 548-6088 (see article Page 3).
- 10 2015 Bull Tour, Sherman and Wasco County, OR., Sandy Macnab (541) 565-3230.
- 11 Ag Business Workshop, "Farm Field Day", Redmond, OR., (541) 447-6228 (see article Page 3).
- 16-17 [Low-Stress Cattle Handling and Stockmanship Seminar](#) (Link), Moses Lake, WA., (509) 754-2011, Ext. 4313 (see article Page 3).
- 18 Oregon Women for Agriculture Auction and Dinner, Albany, OR., (503) 243-3276. www.owanon-online.org (Link).
- 25 Ag Business Workshop, "Agri-Tourism & Land Use", Redmond, OR., (541) 447-6228 (see article Page 3).
- 25-26 [2015 Oregon Ag Fest](#) (Link), Salem, OR., (503) 508-508-2868.

May

- TBA Central Oregon Hay Growers' Association and OSU Extension Service Field Day (in mid to late May)..
- TBA SWCD and OSU Extension Service Pasture Field Day in Late May.
- 2 Central Oregon Sheep Growers Pasture and Grazing Management Workshop (Billie Estridge at 541-480-1340).
- 9 [1st Annual High Desert Horse Expo](#) (Link), Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR., Brandi Ebner (503) 682-0411, Ext. 103 (see article Page 3).
- 20 [Multiple Generations Working Together](#) (Link), Presented by the Austin Family Business Program, Doubletree by Hilton, 300 NW Franklin Ave, Bend OR, 1-800-859-7609 or [Register Here!](#) (Link).

June

- 22-24 Youth Tractor Safety & Certification Course, Madras, OR., Jon Gandy (541) 475-3808 (see article Page 3).
- 24-26 The Whole Grain Summit, Portland, OR., wholegrainsummit2015.com (Link).
- 25-27 Oregon Cattlemen's Association Mid-Year Meeting, www.orcattle.com (Link).
- 29-July 1 [Grazing Management for Riparian-Wetland Areas Training Course](#) (Link), Prineville, OR., Jimmy Eisner (541) 416-6753.

EMERGENCY QUARANTINE ORDERED!

A quarantine has been placed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture following the detection of HPAI in domestic birds in Deschutes County, Oregon (10 mile radius around Tumalo, Oregon). Bird owners inside the Oregon portion of the zone should contact ODA at 1-800-347-7028 if you have questions.

[Document](#) (Link) and [Zone Map](#) (Link).

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This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call (541) 447-6228 for information. If you have a physical disability that requires special considerations in order for you to attend an event, please notify Pam Wiederholt at (541) 447-6228, three (3) days prior to event date.

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